



Town of Dumfries
Council Meeting

Meeting Date:

July 10, 2012

Agenda Item#

XII – B

AGENDA ITEM FORM

TYPE OF AGENDA ITEM:

- ☐ CONSENT AGENDA
- ☐ PRESENTATION
- ☐ ACTION ITEM
- ☐ TOWN MANAGER & STAFF COMMENTS
- ☐ PUBLIC HEARING
 - ☐ Duly Advertised

PURPOSE OF ITEM:

- ☐ INFORMATION ONLY
- ☒ DISCUSSION ONLY
- ☐ DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION
 - ☐ Introduction ☐ Resolution
 - ☐ Ordinance ☐ Grant/MOU
 - ☐ By Motion ☐ Bylaws
 - ☐ Certificate

PRESENTER: Dan Taber

PRESENTER TITLE: Town Manager

AGENDA ITEM:

Discussion on Adopting a Resolution Opposing the Virginia Department of Transportation's Proposal to Install Toll Facilities on Interstate 95

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY:

On May 9, 2012, Mr. Michael Estes from the Office of the Commissioner of Transportation gave a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on VDOT's proposal to install toll collection facilities on I-95 to raise a portion of the funds needed to improve and maintain this critical interstate roadway over the next 25 years. Members of the Board requested and received information regarding the cost and the time required for constructing the toll facilities and the amount of revenue anticipated from toll collections. Board members expressed concern about traffic congestion and increased accidents resulting from the construction and operation of toll facilities. They also expressed concern about the impact of toll facilities on regional efforts to attract supply chain logistics centers and the foreseeable impact on local roads as a result of interstate motorists seeking to avoid paying tolls.

On June 27, the Board of Supervisors adopted the attached resolution as a means of expressing its opposition to the proposed toll facilities on I-95. The Board directed that I convey the resolution to each of the counties, cities, and towns along I-95. I respectfully request that each of you distribute a copy of this resolution to the members of your governing body.

The Hanover Board of Supervisors encourages every jurisdiction along I-95, if it has not already done so, to oppose toll facilities on I-95. VDOT has scaled back its proposal and currently is proposing toll facilities only in Greenville County. However, once the precedent of collecting tolls on interstates has been established in Virginia, toll facilities on other segments of I-95 are likely.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution in opposition to the VDOT proposal to install toll facilities on Interstate 95 adopted by Hanover County Board of Supervisors on June 27, 2012.

REQUESTED ACTION: ☐ NO ACTION REQUESTED

Whether to direct staff to prepare a resolution to be adopted to oppose the toll facilities

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Phone#:

Name:

E-mail:

FOR USE DURING MEETING

Y N

☐ ☐ Brewer

☐ ☐ Praino

☐ ☐ Washington

Y N

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☐ ☐

VOTE:

☐ PASSED

☐ NOT PASSED

Y N

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Foreman

Reynolds

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VIRGINIA: At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors for Hanover County held in the Board Room of the Hanover County Administration Building on the 27th day of June, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mr. G.E. "Ed" Via, III, Chairman
Mr. W. Canova Peterson, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Sean M. Davis
Mr. Wayne T. Hazzard
Mrs. Angela Kelly-Wiecek
Mr. Aubrey M. Stanley
Mr. Cecil R. Harris, Jr., County Administrator
Mr. Sterling E. Rives, III, County Attorney

Absent: Mr. Elton J. Wade, Sr.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
IN OPPOSITION TO THE INSTALLATION
OF TOLL COLLECTION FACILITIES ON INTERSTATE 95**

BACKGROUND

Interstate 95 is a critical transportation corridor in Virginia that connects major metropolitan areas within the state, serves as a link in the main north/south transportation corridor of the East Coast, supports numerous supply chain logistic centers that are critical to Virginia's economy and provides a vital route for the daily transportation needs of tens of thousands of Virginia commuters and businesses.

The Virginia Department of Transportation has developed the I-95 Corridor Improvement Program identifying major repairs and improvements that are critically needed now and over the next 25 years. This I-95 CIP estimates that these repairs and improvements will cost \$12.1 billion over the next 25 years which equates to \$484 million per year on average. The projected needs for operation, maintenance and construction over the next 25 years exceeds current funding levels by a total of \$9.6 billion or, on average, \$384 million per year.

VDOT's I-95 Vision Plan states that "[t]olling is one option to address the long-term funding needs of the I-95 corridor. Other funding alternatives will continue to be investigated."

Although several toll collection scenarios are being investigated by VDOT, one recently described by VDOT as the most likely scenario includes a toll collection facility located south of Petersburg on Interstate 95 and another facility located somewhere north of the I-295/I-95 interchange north of Richmond. VDOT is anticipating tolls of \$2 to \$4 for passenger vehicles and \$6 to \$12 for tractor-trailer vehicles.

Net revenue from these facilities is estimated by VDOT to be between \$25 million and \$30 million per year. Initial construction costs would be approximately \$50 million. Estimates of the ongoing operation and maintenance costs of these facilities are not currently available.

RESOLUTION

In consideration of the foregoing, BE IT RESOLVED by the Hanover County Board of Supervisors to express its strong opposition to the installation of toll collection facilities on Interstate 95 for the following reasons:

1. The proposed toll collection facilities would be an utterly inefficient means of collecting additional revenues. By VDOT's own estimates, the equivalent of at least an entire year's revenue will be spent to construct the facilities. No revenue will be collected during the estimated two year construction period, but motorists on I-95 will suffer from construction delays. Thereafter, the annual costs of operating and maintaining the toll facilities will substantially reduce the revenue actually available for road improvements.

2. The prosecution of toll violators will pose an additional burden on state police and on local judicial systems. Moreover, toll collection facilities invariably cause an increase in traffic congestion and an increase in accidents.

3. Toll collection facilities on Interstate 95 will result in increased traffic volumes on local roads as both local residents and through motorists seek to circumvent the toll collection facilities.

4. Toll collection facilities on Interstate 95 on either end of the Richmond Metropolitan area would discourage the location of new supply chain logistic companies in the Richmond Metropolitan Area and would adversely affect such existing operations. The attraction of supply chain logistic companies has been and continues to be a major focus of Hanover County Economic Development and the Greater Richmond Partnership due to the strategic location of Hanover and the Richmond Metropolitan Area at the intersection of Interstates 95 and 64.

5. The federal Interstate System and Rehabilitation Pilot Program, under which VDOT proposes toll facilities, specifically prohibits the use of federal interstate maintenance funds on any segment of interstate on which toll facilities are placed during the term of the pilot program. The approximately \$50 million dollars per year that VDOT currently receives from the Federal Highway Administration for maintenance of I-95 would no longer be available for that purpose. These funds presumably would be reallocated to other interstate highways in Virginia, and it is unknown at this point whether other funds currently allocated to these other interstate highways could be shifted back to I-95. Therefore, it is distinctly possible that the collection of tolls on I-95 could result in *no increase or even a net reduction* of funds available for improving and maintaining I-95.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be communicated to the governing bodies of the cities and counties of the Commonwealth adjacent to Interstate 95 and that their support in opposition to this plan be solicited.


AND, FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the Commissioner of Transportation, the members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the members of Hanover County's legislative delegation and that response be requested from each member of the legislative delegation on this matter of especial importance to the Richmond Metropolitan Area.

On motion of Mrs. Kelly-Wiecek, seconded by Mr. Davis, the members of the Board of Supervisors voted to approve this Resolution as follows:

| | Vote: |
|---------------------|--------|
| G. E. "Ed" Via, III | Aye |
| W. Canova Peterson | Aye |
| Sean M. Davis | Aye |
| Wayne T. Hazzard | Aye |
| Angela Kelly-Wiecek | Aye |
| Aubrey M. Stanley | Aye |
| Elton J. Wade, Sr. | Absent |

The undersigned certifies that this is a correct copy of the Resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

Dated: June 28, 2012


Cecil R. Harris, Jr., County Administrator
Clerk, Hanover County Board of Supervisors